

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TOUR OF MFA INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS OFFICIALS TO US UNIVERSITIES

1. DEPARTMENT JANUARY 9 RECEIVED INFORMAL REQUEST FROM  
SOVIET EMBASSY FOR HELP IN ARRANGING VISIT OF THREE SENIOR  
OFFICIALS OF MFA INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IIR)  
TO SELECTED US UNIVERSITIES WITH SPECIAL PROGRAMS IN QUAN-  
TITATIVE ANALYSIS, GAME THEORY, AND OTHER CONTEMPORARY DIS-  
CIPLINES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS STUDIES. ACCORDING TO  
SOVEMB COUNSELOR BESSMERTNYKH, EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER  
FROM MFA ASKING EMBASSY TO SET UP PROGRAM FOR IIR OFFICIALS.  
IIR OFFICIALS INVOLVED ARE AMBASSADOR NIKOLAY I. LEBEDEV,  
RECTOR OF INSTITUTE; VLADISLAV B. TIKHOMIROV, PROFESSOR AND  
SPECIALIST IN METHODS OF QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN  
POLICY PROCESSES; AND VALENTIN D. SHCHETININ, DEAN OF THE  
FACULTY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WITHIN IIR, AND DOCTOR  
OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES. BESSMERTNYKH MADE CLEAR HE WAS TALK-  
ING ABOUT MFA'S INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, WHICH  
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HE DESCRIBED AS UNDERGRADUATE-LEVEL INSTITUTION, AND NOT

DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY, WHICH HE COMPARED TO FSI.

2. BESSMERTNYKH MENTIONED LEBEDEV WOULD LIKE TO STAY 30 DAYS AND THAT SHCHETININ, TIKHOMIROV WOULD REQUEST A 60 RPT 60-DAY VISIT. TRIO WOULD ARRIVE USA IN LATE FEBRUARY, OR EARLIER IF POSSIBLE, AND SPECIFICALLY ARE INTERESTED IN VISITING HARVARD, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, AND PRINCETON. THEY WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN VISITING RAND CORP. FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF FIRST MONTH, TIKHOMIROV WOULD REMAIN IN USA FOR SECOND MONTH OF VISIT. SITES AND SPECIFICS STILL UNDETERMINED FOR TIKHOMIROV PHASE. SOVIETS WOULD ASSUME ALL COSTS FOR VISIT.

3. SOVIET INTEREST SPECIFICALLY EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF GAINING FIRST-HAND FAMILIARIZATION WITH CURRENT US ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS WHICH SPECIALIZE IN DEVELOPING QUANTITATIVE METHODS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ANALYSIS. LIST OF PARTICULAR SUBJECT AREAS OF INTEREST INCLUDES, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, GAME THEORY, CONTENT ANALYSIS, METHODS OF AUTOMATED DATA RETRIEVAL USED BY SPECIALIZED LIBRARIES IN US, AS APPLIED TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND USE OF COMPUTERS IN QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS. BESSMERTNYKH TENDED TO DEPRECATE THE VALUE OF SUCH APPROACHES TO STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, BUT SAID THAT IIR WAS INTERESTED IN SEEING WHETHER THEY COULD BE OF USE IN TEACHING AT INSTITUTE. ACCORDING TO BESSMERTNYKH, SOVIET GROUP WOULD ALSO BE WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE TO SEMINARS ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT THE HOST UNIVERSITIES. HE DID NOT HAVE DETAILS ON WHETHER OR NOT THESE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN ON PREVIOUS VISITS TO USA, OR HAVE CORRESPONDED WITH POSSIBLE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY HOST PROFESSORS. LEBEDEV AND SHCHETININ APPARENTLY HAVE SOME ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABILITY, BUT NOT CERTAIN ABOUT TIKHOMIROV.

4. WE SAID WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US UNIVERSITIES TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF INTEREST AND TYPES OF VISITS THAT WOULD SUIT SOVIET INTERESTS. WE ARE PRESENTLY IN PROCESS OF CONTACTING UNIVERSITIES ABOUT POSSIBLE PROGRAM. ONCE WE HAVE PICTURE OF WHAT UNIVERSITIES MIGHT BE PREPARED TO DO, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CONTACT LEBEDEV AND OTHERS TO ASCERTAIN SPECIFIC REQUESTS  
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AND INTERESTS TO FILL OUT PROGRAM. WE WOULD HOPE THAT PREPARATIONS FOR VISIT HERE WILL ENABLE US TO LAY GROUND WORK FOR RECIPROCAL VISIT BY US SPECIALISTS TO USSR. WE WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT OUR WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST ON THIS PROJECT COULD BE USED WITH MFA AT SOME POINT, IF NECESSARY, CONCERNING OUR INTEREST IN PLACING FSO'S FOR ACADEMIC YEAR AT MGU OR OTHER ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS. WE REALIZE AT SAME TIME THAT PROPOSED IIR VISIT AND FSO PROJECT ARE NOT COM-

PARABLE. KISSINGER

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